

Sub 1  
C1

1. (twice amended) An adhesive tape for attaching plural objects to one another, said tape comprising a stretchable first backing layer having first and second major surfaces and first and second ends, a non-adhesive manually engageable tab portion at one of said first and second ends to facilitate stretching of said first backing layer, an adhesive surface over at least a portion of said first major surface of said first backing layer for bonding to a surface of an object, and a separable connector surface comprising a plurality of interengaging elements covering at least a portion of said second major surface of said first backing layer, wherein said first backing layer and said adhesive surface are stretchable together to effect progressive debonding of the adhesive surface from an object, after the adhesive surface is bonded to that object, by the application of a force to the first end of the first backing layer in a direction of extension of the first backing layer between its first and second ends and said separable connector surface possesses the ability to be connected, disconnected and reconnected to a cooperating connection surface without destruction of the separable [connection] connector surface and the adhesive tape.

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41. (amended) A stretch releasing adhesive tape with a refastenable connection for attaching plural objects to one another, comprising:

- (a) a stretchable first backing layer having first and second major surfaces and first and second ends, said first end including a non adhesive manually engageable tab portion to facilitate stretching of said first backing layer, said backing layer having a lengthwise elongation at break of from about 50% to about 1200%, said backing layer including an adhesive surface over at least a portion of said first major surface for bonding to a surface of an object; and
- (b) a separable connector surface [covering] comprising an array of elements distributed over at least a portion of said second major surface of said first backing layer, said separable connector surface possessing the ability to be connected, disconnected, and reconnected to a

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cooperating connection surface without destruction of the separable  
[connection] connector surface and the adhesive tape;

wherein said first backing layer and said adhesive surface are stretchable together to effect progressive debonding of the adhesive surface from an object, after the adhesive surface is bonded to that object, by the application of a force to the manually engageable tab portion in a direction of extension.

45. (amended) A stretch releasing adhesive tape with a refastenable connection for attaching plural objects to one another, comprising:

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- (a) a stretchable first backing layer having first and second major surfaces and first and second ends, said first end including a non adhesive first manually engageable tab portion to facilitate stretching of said first backing layer, said first backing layer having a lengthwise elongation at break of from about 50% to about 1200%, said first backing layer including a first adhesive surface over at least a portion of said first major surface for bonding to a surface of an object;
  - (b) a stretchable second backing layer having first and second major surfaces and first and second ends, said first end including a second non adhesive manually engageable tab portion to facilitate stretching of said second backing layer, said second backing layer having a lengthwise elongation at break of from about 50% to about 1200%, said second backing layer including a second adhesive surface over at least a portion of said first major surface for bonding to a surface of an object; and
  - (c) a separable connector comprising a hook and loop connector system arranged between said first and said second backing layers possessing

the ability to be connected, disconnected, and reconnected without destruction of said separable connector;

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Contd

wherein said first backing layer and said first adhesive surface are stretchable together to effect progressive debonding of said first adhesive surface from an object, after said first adhesive surface is bonded to that object, by the application of a force to said first manually engageable tab portion in a direction of extension, and further wherein said second backing layer and said second adhesive surface are stretchable together to effect progressive debonding of said second adhesive surface from an object, after said second adhesive surface is bonded to that object, by the application of a force to said second manually engageable tab portion in a direction of extension.

Please add the following new claims:

-- 46. (new) The adhesive tape of claim 1, wherein said separable connector surface comprises a layer of an interlocking material. --

-- 47. (new) The adhesive tape of claim 46, wherein said interlocking material comprises one of a hook and loop material. --

C4

-- 48. (new) The adhesive tape of claim 1, wherein said separable connector surface comprises a layer of an intermeshing material. --

-- 49. (new) The adhesive tape of claim 1, further comprising a second adhesive surface over at least a portion of the second major surface of said first backing layer, wherein the second adhesive surface of the second major surface of said first backing layer is bonded to a separable connector layer, and said separable connector surface is provided as a surface of said separable connector layer. --

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-- 50. (new) The adhesive tape of claim 1, further comprising a stretchable second backing layer having first and second major surfaces and first and second ends, an adhesive surface over at least a portion of said first major surface of said second backing layer for bonding to a surface of another object, and a cooperating separable connector surface covering at least a portion of said second major surface of said second backing layer, wherein said second backing layer and its adhesive surface are stretchable together to effect progressive debonding of the adhesive surface from the other object, after its adhesive surface is bonded to that object, by the application of a force to the first end of the second backing layer in a direction of extension of the second backing layer between its first and second ends and said cooperating separable connector surface possesses the ability to be connected, disconnected and reconnected to said connection surface of said first backing layer without destruction of the separable connector surface, the cooperating connection surface and the adhesive tape. --

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-- 51. (new) An adhesive tape for attaching plural objects to one another, said tape comprising a stretchable first backing layer having first and second major surfaces and first and second ends, a non-adhesive manually engageable tab portion at one of said first and second ends to facilitate stretching of said first backing layer, an adhesive surface over at least a portion of said first major surface of said first backing layer for bonding to a surface of an object, and a separable connector surface comprising a surface of low-tack adhesive covering at least a portion of said second major surface of said first backing layer, wherein said first backing layer and said adhesive surface are stretchable together to effect progressive debonding of the adhesive surface from an object, after the adhesive surface is bonded to that object, by the application of a force to the first end of the first backing layer in a direction of extension of the first backing layer between its first and second ends and said separable connector surface possesses the ability to be connected, disconnected and reconnected to a cooperating connection surface without destruction of the separable connector surface and the adhesive tape. --

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-- 52. (new) An adhesive tape for attaching plural objects to one another, said tape comprising a stretchable first backing layer having first and second major surfaces and first and second ends, a non-adhesive manually engageable tab portion at one of said first and second ends to facilitate stretching of said first backing layer, an adhesive surface over at least a portion of said first major surface of said first backing layer for bonding to a surface of an object, and a separable connector surface comprising a strip of magnetic material covering at least a portion of said second major surface of said first backing layer, wherein said first backing layer and said adhesive surface are stretchable together to effect progressive debonding of the adhesive surface from an object, after the adhesive surface is bonded to that object, by the application of a force to the first end of the first backing layer in a direction of extension of the first backing layer between its first and second ends and said separable connector surface possesses the ability to be connected, disconnected and reconnected to a cooperating connection surface without destruction of the separable connector surface and the adhesive tape. --

-- 53. (new) An adhesive tape for attaching plural objects to one another, said tape comprising a stretchable first backing layer having first and second major surfaces and first and second ends, a non-adhesive manually engageable tab portion at one of said first and second ends to facilitate stretching of said first backing layer, an adhesive surface over at least a portion of said first major surface of said first backing layer for bonding to a surface of an object, and a separable connector surface comprising a layer of contact responsive material covering at least a portion of said second major surface of said first backing layer, wherein said first backing layer and said adhesive surface are stretchable together to effect progressive debonding of the adhesive surface from an object, after the adhesive surface is bonded to that object, by the application of a force to the first end of the first backing layer in a direction of extension of the first backing layer between its first and second ends and said separable connector surface possesses the ability to be connected, disconnected and reconnected to a cooperating connection surface without destruction of the separable connector surface and the adhesive tape. --